

**To:** CN=Alexis Strauss/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Cc:** []  
**Bcc:** []  
**From:** CN=Karen Schwinn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Mon 8/22/2011 7:26:26 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Grasslands Bypass Monitoring Reductions - Opposition letter  
[Opposition To Grassland Bypass Monitoring Reductions.pdf](#)  
<http://greenroots.pcl.org/>

Just fyi -here's what I mentioned this morning. The incoming enviro letter, and my subsequent note to agency partners.

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----- Forwarded by Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US on 08/22/2011 12:24 PM -----

**From:** Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US  
**To:** "Glaser, Donald R" <DGlaser@usbr.gov>, Ren Lohofener <Ren\_Lohofener@fws.gov>, Pamela Creedon <pcreedon@waterboards.ca.gov>, <jmccamman@dfg.ca.gov>, "Eacock, Michael C. S." <MEacock@usbr.gov>  
**Date:** 08/19/2011 12:26 PM  
**Subject:** Grasslands Bypass Monitoring Reductions - Opposition letter

Dear Grasslands Bypass Project Oversight Committee and Chris -

We all received an August 11, 2011 letter, as members of the Grasslands Bypass Project (GBP) Oversight Committee, co-signed by 14 environmental organizations opposing reduced monitoring for the GBP. I've attached the incoming below. (I included John McCammon on this email as DFG is a part of the GBP Oversight Committee as well, even though not addressed in the letter.) As you may know, the letter is reacting to Reclamation's proposal to modify GBP monitoring. The proposal is being considered by our Data Collection and Reporting Team (DCRT). I understand the DCRT is meeting next week and I'm hoping they can develop a response for us to jointly sign.

The 8/11/11 letter also discusses issues beyond the scope of the GBP's compliance with regulatory requirements - for example, the need for a more comprehensive monitoring design that probes biological exposure and effects and the regional transport and fate of selenium. Although I do not agree with all the points in the letter, I do think we have an opportunity to improve the effectiveness of monitoring and assessment of selenium (and possibly other constituents) through a more comprehensive regional perspective. A regional monitoring approach, as we've seen in other areas of the State, can often use limited resources more efficiently by aligning information needs and data generated for various programs to address shared questions.

EPA has already begun work to promote a regional monitoring approach. In 2010, we developed a San Joaquin water quality monitoring strategy, working with the Water Board.  
[<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/pdf/DraftPropWqMonitorStratSjrBasin3-3-10.pdf>]  
and have since hired CURES (the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship) to advance this strategy. I believe some collaboration between our DCRT and CURES would be timely and productive.

To further this concept, I suggest we take advantage of the expertise and organization of the DCRT and task them with comparing and contrasting the information needs of the various monitoring programs in this geographic area (i.e., GBP; ILRP; Salinity & Boron TMDL; San Joaquin River Restoration Program); advising us on the potential benefits and obstacles of a regional monitoring approach; and suggesting how the DCRT (or others) might work with CURES to assist this effort.

I am asking our DCRT rep (Eugenia McNaughton) to suggest this as an agenda topic for their next meeting to gauge the level of interest from your agencies. I'd appreciate any reaction you have to this concept. Thanks. - Karen

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----- Forwarded by Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US on 08/18/2011 08:31 AM -----

From: Evon Chambers <EChambers@pcl.org>  
To: Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 08/10/2011 04:13 PM  
Subject: Grasslands Bypass Monitoring Reductions - Opposition letter

Dear Ms. Schwinn,

Please find the attached comments from fifteen groups regarding our opposition to the proposal to curtail monitoring at the Grassland Bypass Project.

Let me know if there are any problems receiving these comments.

Thank you,

Evon Parvaneh Chambers  
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Check out PCL's blog! <http://greenroots.pcl.org/>